

Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 IO-06 EB-04 NSCE-00
INR-05 CIAE-00 SP-02 L-01 PRS-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01
PM-03 DODE-00 /050 W
-----130930 311627Z /45S

P R 311338Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1096
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 THE HAGUE 4429

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV NL RH
SUBJECT: ZIMBABWE DEVELOPMENT FUND: APPROACH TO GON

REF: STATE 206797

1. BRITISH AMBASSADOR SYKES AND I CALLED ON FOREIGN MINISTER
VAN DER STOEL MORNING AUGUST 31 AND DISCUSSED RHODESIAN
INITIATIVE ON BASIS OF INSTRUCTIONS REFTEL. WE DID NOT HAND
OVER ANNEX C, SINCE SYKES DID NOT HAVE AUTHORITY TO DO SO.
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(HE RECEIVED AUTHORITY TO THIS EFFECT IMMEDIATELY SUBSEQUENT
TO THE CONVERSATION WITH VAN DER STOEL AND WAS PLANNING, IN
ANY EVENT, TO PRESENT ENTIRE WHITE PAPER, INCLUDING ANNEX C,
ON DATE OF PUBLICATION, SEPT. 1).

2. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF THE REPORT PREPARED BY BRITISH
EMBASSY. BEGIN TEXT:

A. ACCOMPANIED BY MY US COLLEAGUE I CALLED ON THE FOREIGN MINISTER THIS MORNING AND SPOKE AS INSTRUCTED IN YOUR TELEGRAMS UNDER REFERENCE. I LEFT WITH THE MINISTER THE REVISED TEXT OF THE MAIN PAPER ON THE SETTLEMENT PROPOSALS, AN AIDE-MEMOIRE BASED ON THE AGREED ANGLO/US SPEAKING NOTE AND A SPEAKING NOTE DRAWN FROM YOUR TELEGRAM NO. 449 TO CANBERRA. (OUR COMMENT: THIS PARALLELED REFTEL).

B. MR. VAN DER STOEL SAID THAT THE NETHERLANDS GOVERNMENT FULLY SUPPORTED THE PRESENT ANGLO/US ATTEMPT TO SOLVE THE RHODESIAN PROBLEM. ALTHOUGH THEY WOULD NEED TO STUDY THE DETAILS, THE NETHERLANDS GOVERNMENT WERE PREPARED IN PRINCIPLE TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TO THE ZDF AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME.

C. MR. VAN DER STOEL ASKED WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO THE RHODESIAN ARMED FORCES WHEN A TRANSITIONAL ADMINISTRATION TOOK OVER. I EXPLAINED THAT THE PRESENT INTENTION WAS THAT ELEMENTS FROM THE RHODESIAN FORCES WOULD BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ZIMBABWE NATIONAL ARMY BUT THAT ELEMENTS DRAWN FROM THE LIBERATION ARMIES WOULD PREDOMINATE. THE DETAILS WOULD HAVE TO BE WORKED OUT BETWEEN THE BRITISH RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, THE UN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE AND THE COMMANDERS OF THE FORCES CONCERNED.

D. THE FOREIGN MINISTER ASKED ABOUT THE CHANCES OF THE ANGLO/US PROPOSALS BEING ACCEPTED. THE PRESS REPORTS WHICH HE HAD SEEN
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HAD NOT BE OPTIMISTIC. I EXPLAINED THAT YOU RECOGNIZED THE GREAT DIFFICULTIES INVOLVED IN ACHIEVING A SETTLEMENT BUT THAT THE TWO GOVERNMENTS THOUGHT IT THEIR DUTY TO PRESS AHEAD WITH THESE PROPOSALS WHICH OFFERED THE CHANCE OF A FAIR SETTLEMENT TO ALL PARTIES. MR. VAN DER STOEL SAID THAT HE FULLY ACCEPTED THIS.

E. THE FOREIGN MINISTER ALSO ASKED WHETHER THERE HAD BEEN ANY PRELIMINARY CONTACTS WITH OTHER SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS, FOR EXAMPLE THE SOVIET UNION, ABOUT THE PASSAGE OF A RESOLUTION COVERING UN INVOLVEMENT. I TOLD HIM THAT I HAD HEARD OF NO SUCH CONTACTS.

F. MR. VAN DER STOEL ALSO WANTED TO KNOW WHETHER WE HAD USED THE THREAT OF AN OIL EMBARGO TO PERSUADE THE SOUTH AFRICANS TO SUPPORT OUR PROPOSALS AND TO BRING PRESSURE ON THE ILLEGAL REGIME. I TOLD HIM THAT SPEAKING PERSONALLY I THOUGHT THE SOUTH AFRICANS MUST BE AWARE OF THIS POSSIBILITY BUT THAT SO FAR AS I KNEW YOU HAD NOT RAISED THE POINT DURING THE TALKS.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 THE HAGUE 4429

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G. THE FOREIGN MINISTER SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN DISTURBED
BY A REPORT WHICH HE HAD JUST SEEN FROM THE NETHERLANDS
CHARGE D' AFFAIRES IN PRETORIA. THIS RECORDED A RECENT
CONVERSATION WHICH THE LATTER HAD HAD WITH THE SECRETARY
GENERAL AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY THERE. ACCORDING TO THIS,
FOURIE HAD SAID THAT IF THE WEST STEPPED UP THEIR OSTRACISM
OF SOUTH AFRICA THE EVENTUAL RESULT COULD BE THE FURTHER
DEVELOPMENT OF SOUTH AFRICAN "NUCLEAR OPTIONS." MR. VAN DER
STOEL SAID THAT THIS WAS NUCLEAR BLACKMAIL AND WAS REGARDED
AS A SERIOUS MATTER BY THE NETHERLANDS GOVERNMENT. THIS KIND
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OF TALK COULD LEAD TO A FURTHER ESCALATION OF THE ALREADY
SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

H. MR. VAN DER STOEL ENDED BY SAYING THAT HE WAS GRATEFUL TO THE BRITISH AND US GOVERNMENTS FOR KEEPING THE NETHERLANDS GOVERNMENT SO CLOSELY INFORMED ABOUT THEIR SETTLEMENT PROPOSALS AND HE HOPED WE SHOULD GO ON DOING SO.

I. I HAVE CLEARED THIS ACCOUNT WITH MY US COLLEAGUE WHO WILL BE REPORTING IN IDENTICAL TERMS TO WASHINGTON. END TEXT

3. COMMENT: IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION MFA AFRICA DIRECTOR INDICATED VAN DER STOEL MIGHT BE OVERREACTING SOMEWHAT TO FOURIE'S REMARKS REPORTED BY NETHERLANDS CHARGE IN PRETORIA. HE COUNTED WITH THE POSSIBILITY FOURIE HAD MADE REMARK ABOUT "NUCLEAR OPTIONS" IN THE HEAT OF A DIFFICULT AND SOMEWHAT DISAGREEABLE CONVERSATION WHICH MIGHT HAVE LED NETHERLANDS CHARGE TO GIVE UNDUE WEIGHT TO WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN A THOUGHTLESS AND INADVISABLE REMARK. VAN DER STOEL IS NOW CONSIDERING WHETHER TO SUMMON SOUTH AFRICAN AMBASSADOR. EMBASSY PRETORIA MAY WISH TO TOUCH BASE WITH NETHERLANDS CHARGE FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING HIS CONVERSATION WITH FOURIE, WHICH TOOK PLACE ON AUGUST 30.

4. SYKES WAS IN POSSESSION OF RECENT REPORTS ABOUT FOREIGN SECRETARY'S OWEN'S AND AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S CONVERSATIONS. WE WOULD APPRECIATE UPDATE OF DEVELOPMENTS TO HELP KEEP US AT LEAST IN STEP WITH BRITISH HERE IN OUR CONTACTS WITH THE DUTCH. MCCLOSKEY

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